From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech, Presented by Verizon: Chinese Intelligence Used Captured NSA Hacking Tools Against U.S. Allies in 2016, Symantec Says
Date: Tuesday, May 7, 2019 5:10:00 AM

By Sam Sabin

Morning Consult has published the latest edition of its monthly Trump Tracker, showing the president's approval state by state, month over month. See it here.

Top Stories

- Chinese intelligence agents captured hacking tools from the National Security Agency during an attack on their computers and then used those tools in 2016 to target American allies and European and Asian companies, according to cybersecurity firm Symantec. The Chinese hacking group that acquired the tools is considered one of the most dangerous Chinese contractors by NSA analysts, according to a classified agency memo reviewed by reporters, and the discovery raises questions as to whether the United States should still develop the world's top cyberweapons if it can't protect them properly. (The New York Times)

- U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer said that the administration intends to raise tariffs on Chinese imports on Friday, citing an "erosion of commitments by China" in the past week despite trade talk progress. The Chinese Ministry of Commerce said in a statement following the comments that its top trade negotiator, Liu He, still plans to meet with Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin later this week, as sources say the country prepares retaliatory tariffs on U.S. imports. (Bloomberg)

- Amazon.com Inc. has faced seven lawsuits from former warehouse workers who say they were fired in the last eight years for being pregnant, according to documents reviewed by reporters, and in each case, the women claimed the company failed to accommodate their needs, which included requests for longer bathroom breaks and fewer continuous standing hours. Six of the cases were settled outside of court, and Amazon said it is "absolutely not true" that the company would fire employees for being pregnant. (CNET)

Chart Review

SoftBank Has a Big Sprint Problem on Its Hands Without T-Mobile
Bloomberg

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

05/07/2019

Google I/O conference	
Satellite 2019	
Senate Banking Committee's hearing on privacy in the digital economy	10:00 am
RailxTech 2019	10:30 am

New America's "What Sci-Fi Futures Can (and Can't) Teach Us About AI Policy" event	1:00 pm
FCBA's "CLE: Lawyering Social: Legal Issues on Social and Digital Media" event	6:00 pm

05/08/2019

Google I/O conference	
RiskSec	
Satellite 2019	
The Washington Post's discussion with Speaker Nancy Pelosi	8:00 am
House Administration Committee hearing on election security	10:00 am
Senate Commerce Committee hearing on national airspace system	10:00 am
House Energy and Commerce's consumer protection subcommittee's hearing on FTC oversight and data privacy	10:30 am
FCC's North American Numbering Council Meeting	10:00 am

05/09/2019

Google I/O conference	
Satellite 2019	
Politico's The United States of Entrepreneurs event	8:00 am
Washington International Trade Association event on World Trade Organization's e-commerce initiative	9:00 am
House Small Business Committee's hearing on entrepreneurship in the digital ecosystem	10:00 am
FCC's May Open Commission Meeting	10:30 am
Cato Institute's event on cyber warfare, coercion, and restraint	1:00 pm

House Judiciary Committee's oversight hearing of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office	2:00 pm
FTC Cmr. Phillips participant in roundtable at the ABA's Antitrust in the Americas 2019	3:30 pm

05/10/2019

U.S. Chamber of Commerce's 2019 Digital Empowers Summit	8:30 am

View full calendar

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Consumers Want Congress To Take Action That Protects Their Privacy.

A recent poll shows Americans support a new national privacy law. Let's make privacy priority #1 this year.

General

A grim preview of a trade war takes shape
Matt Ott, The Associated Press

In what could be a grim preview of how investors might react to a full-out trade war between the world's two largest economies, shares in multinational corporations sank Monday after President Donald Trump threatened new tariffs on China.

Harris says her administration would hold social media platforms 'accountable' for 'hate'
Emily Birnbaum, The Hill

Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.) on Sunday said her administration would hold social media platforms "accountable" for "hate," laying out her vision for combatting domestic terrorism at an event in Detroit.

Senior IRS Leaders Launch Review of Agency's Partnership With TurboTax and H&R Block
Justin Elliott, ProPublica

Amid calls for investigations from members of Congress, the IRS announced late Friday that it has convened a team of senior leaders to review concerns raised about its Free File public-private partnership with the tax software industry, following a series of ProPublica stories.

Apple buys a company every few weeks, says CEO Tim Cook
Lauren Feiner, CNBC

Apple buys a company every two to three weeks on average, CEO Tim Cook told CNBC. In roughly the last six months alone, Cook said, Apple has bought approximately 20 to 25 companies.

'They treat us like crap': Uber drivers feel poor and powerless on eve of IPO
Michael Sainato, The Guardian

A lot of very rich people will get even richer when Uber goes public on 9 May in one of the most anticipated initial public offerings (IPO) to hit the stock market in 2019. Travis Kalanick, Uber's founder, could see his 8.6% stake in the company valued at close to $8bn if the company is valued at $90bn plus.

Long Island City's Amazon effect
Erica Pandey, Axios

When Amazon announced its retreat from Queens amid a backlash from local activists, Long Island City seemed to have lost 25,000 new jobs and billions of dollars in investment.

Amazon Go's first NY store is also the first to accept cash
Ben Fox Rubin, CNET

You'll find lots of the same stuff stocking the shelves at the newest Amazon Go convenience store in Manhattan. There are meal kits for beef Bolognese rigatoni, assortments of sushi, and sweet potato and avocado mole wraps.

San Francisco to join list of those banning cashless stores
Janie Har, The Associated Press

San Francisco is about to require brick-and-mortar retailers to take cash as payment, joining Philadelphia and New Jersey in banning a growing paperless practice that critics say discriminates against low-income people who may not have access to credit cards.

Stocks Decline as Trade Concerns Linger; Oil Dips: Markets Wrap
Robert Brand, Bloomberg

Stocks in Europe dropped alongside U.S. equity-index futures on Tuesday as a slew of trade headlines continued to buffet markets. The dollar edged higher and Treasury yields were steady.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

Elizabeth Warren wants to break up Big Tech. Tim Cook says keep Apple out of it.
Emily Stewart, Vox

Apple CEO Tim Cook, unsurprisingly, does not agree with Sen. Elizabeth Warren's belief that his company should be broken up. And he seems annoyed by the current political conversation around big tech and privacy.

Telecom, Wireless and TV

Broadband Economic Impact Bill Introduced

John Eggerton, Broadcasting & Cable

Sens. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) and Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), who co-chair the Senate Broadband Caucus, have introduced the self-evidently named Measuring the Economic Impact of Broadband Act, just the latest effort in a political season where broadband access is an election issue-Klobuchar is running for President.

Tech faces tough choices on rural broadband
Emily Birnbaum, The Hill

Telecom and consumer groups are preparing to make a major push for including billions of dollars for rural broadband funding in any infrastructure deal, even as lawmakers and advocates struggle with tough questions ahead. Democratic leaders signaled that broadband investment could be a major part of the $2 trillion infrastructure deal they are pursuing with President Trump

Singapore Takes Step Toward Introducing 5G Network Next Year
Abhishek Vishnoi, Bloomberg

Singapore's mobile phone carriers are being asked to take a step toward introducing fifth-generation wireless services as early as next year as the government plans to allocate spectrum for at least two networks.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

Mark Zuckerberg Has Veto Power Over All of Facebook. The Next Shareholder Meeting Could Change That.
Tonya Riley, Mother Jones

Nonprofits plan to use Facebook's upcoming May shareholder meeting to continue a push to wrest power at the company from its founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg. On Monday, in light of ongoing privacy scandals, repeated civil rights violations, and ongoing content moderation problems, civil rights group Color of Change and the investor advocacy group Majority Action filed an advisory to shareholders asking that they abstain from voting for CEO Mark Zuckerberg to remain chair of the company's board.

Apple and Google remove three dating apps for letting kids under 13 sign up, FTC says

Lauren Feiner, CNBC

The Federal Trade Commission said on Monday that Apple and Google removed three dating apps from their app stores after the FTC alleged they allowed kids under 13 to sign up. The apps - Meet24, FastMeet and Meet4U - are operated by Wildec, a company based in the Ukraine, the FTC said.

Instagram developing 'pop-up' message to crack down on vaccine misinformation
Emily Birnbaum, The Hill

Instagram said it is taking further steps to crack down on the spread of medically inaccurate content by developing a "pop-up" that would appear on content containing vaccine-related misinformation.

Instagram is reducing the reach of posts debunked by fact-checkers
Daniel Funke, Poynter

In an expansion of Facebook's partnership with fact-checking sites around the world, Instagram has started reducing the reach of false posts. When one of Facebook's fact-checking partners, of which there are now 52 in more than 30 countries, rates a link, image or video as false, its future reach in the News Feed is decreased and users are warned if they try to share it.

Apple to Reveal New Home-Grown Apps, Software Features at WWDC
Mark Gurman, Bloomberg

Apple Inc. is planning to unleash a slew of new apps, features and development tools at its annual software conference next month. To improve its devices and strengthen its connection to customers, the consumer technology giant will continue to walk a fine line between wooing outside app makers while also competing against them.

Cybersecurity and Privacy

'They Would Go Absolutely Nuts': How a Mark Cuban-Backed Facial Recognition Firm Tried to Work With Cops
Joseph Cox, Motherboard

Facial recognition technology is becoming more common across the United States, for both law enforcement and private companies. Now, emails obtained through a public records request provide insight into how facial recognition companies attempt to strike deals with local law enforcement as well as gain access to sensitive data on local residents.

Border officials don't have data to address racial bias in facial recognition tech
Alfred Ng, CNET

Facial recognition technology is prone to errors, but when it comes to racial bias at airports, there's a good chance it's not learning from its mistakes. Debra Danisek, a privacy officer with the US Customs and Border Protection, talked to an audience Friday at the International Association of Privacy Professionals Summit about what data its facial recognition tech collects - but more importantly, about what data it doesn't collect.

Microsoft Offers Election Software That Will Flag Hack Attempts
Dina Bass, Bloomberg

Microsoft Corp. will offer free software tools to protect elections and help voters, monitors and agencies make sure votes are counted properly. The software company said the tools will make it harder to hack elections in the first place, but if one is, it will be clear that results have been altered or tampered with.

FTC to Face Questions Over How It Handled Years' Worth of Privacy Disasters
Dell Cameron, Gizmodo

America's top consumer watchdog will face questions from congressional lawmakers this week concerning a veritable laundry list of privacy-related incidents, including many that will be centered around Facebook's own protracted series of failures.

A Message from Verizon:

Consumers Want Congress To Take Action That Protects Their Privacy.

A recent poll shows Americans support a new national privacy law. Let's make privacy priority #1 this year.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Energy Secretary Rick Perry: It is time for America to boost its dominance in artificial intelligence
Rick Perry, CNBC

When America agreed to stop underground testing of nuclear weapons, supercomputers from the U.S. Department of Energy provided the precise and sophisticated simulations necessary to ensure the arsenal's ongoing effectiveness.

Alexa has been eavesdropping on you this whole time
Geoffrey A. Fowler, The Washington Post

Would you let a stranger eavesdrop in your home and keep the recordings? For most people, the answer is, "Are you crazy?"

Spotify Turns the Anti-Apple Volume Up to 11
Lionel Laurent, Bloomberg

Complaints about the iPhone maker taking a 30 percent cut of App Store subscriptions have merit. But it's hard to feel too sorry for Spotify.

Research Reports

Ready or not, here it comes: How prepared are organizations for the California Consumer Privacy Act?
International Association of Privacy Professionals and OneTrust

With the California Consumer Privacy Act taking effect Jan. 1, 2020, and becoming enforceable July 1, 2020, it is time for organizations to take a closer look at the CCPA and begin preparing toward compliance. The IAPP and OneTrust fielded an early 2019 survey to determine where U.S. privacy professionals stand on CCPA compliance.

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